

THE GREEN BOOK



BY MUAMMAR AL QADHAFI

PART 1

The solution of the problem of Democracy

PART 2

The solution of the Economic Problem

PART 3

The Social Basis of the Third Universal Theory

In these three volumes the Libyan leader examines the economic, social and political problems confronting the world today, and presents a radical programme for their solution.

The Green Book provides a comprehensive review of the theories on which the Libyan Jamahiriya is based. The proposals put forward by Muammer al Qadhafi are not merely theories but an explanation and insight into the structure and priorities of modern Libya.

Copies of The Green Book can be obtained from The Information Department, The Libyan People's Bureau of the Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 5 St James's Square, London SW1.

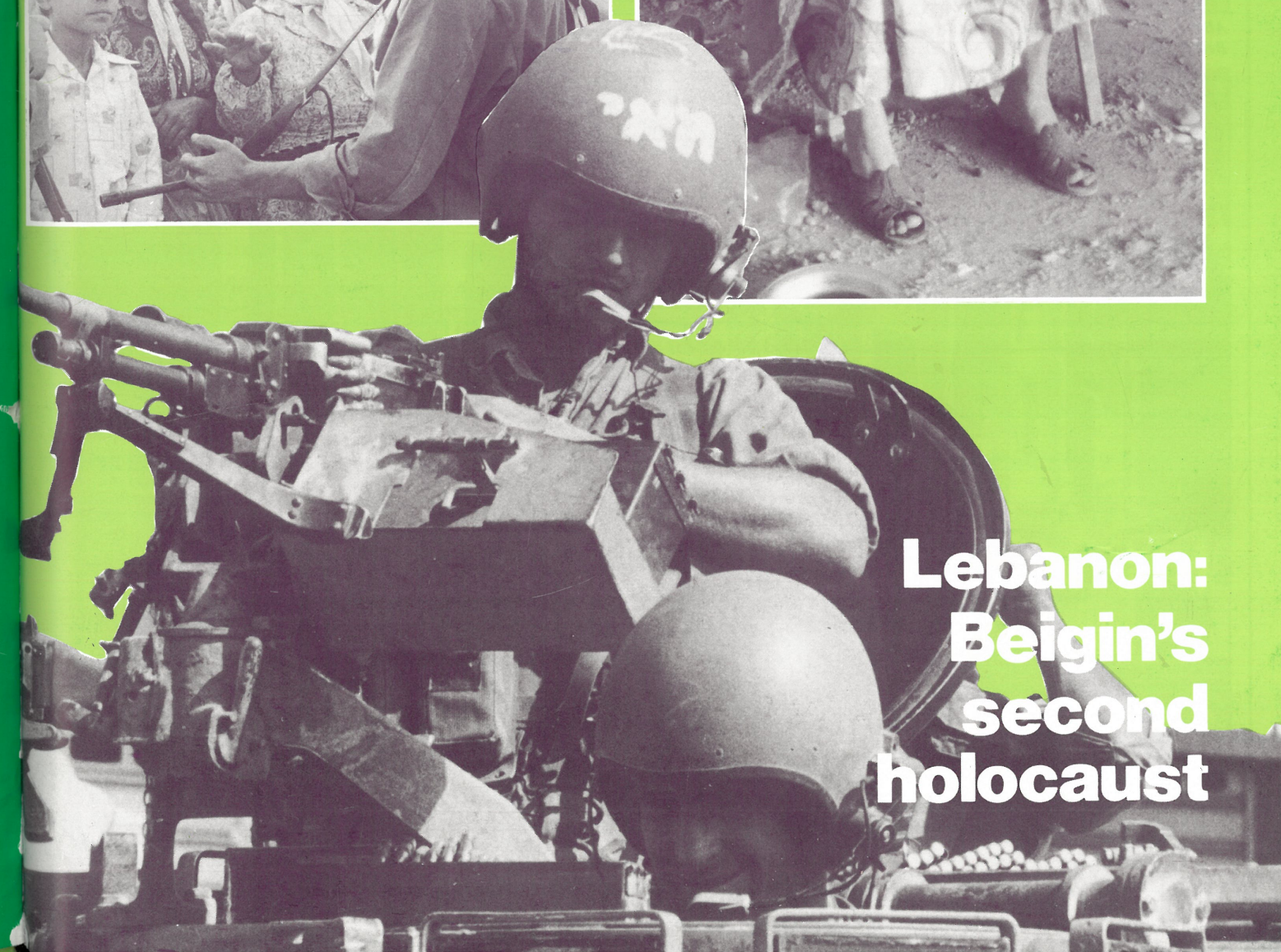
jamahiriya review

July 1982

Price 50p



**Lebanon:
Beigin's
second
holocaust**



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OAU
Summit:
Background
report



Above: Israeli occupying forces contravene Geneva Conventions by blindfolding captured Palestinians.
Below: Ambulances were hit when Israeli planes bombed the Beirut sports stadium.



jamahiriya review

No 26

July 1982

COVER STORY: The United States and Israel jointly planned the early June invasion of Lebanon in which almost one million civilians are reported to have been made homeless. The aim was to smash the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the military and political force of the 4.4 million Palestinians, and to pave the way for Israel's annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as Dr Alan George explains in our special extended report which appears on pages 13-15.

AFRICA REPORT: With the Organisation of African Unity summit conference scheduled for early August, Abdullah Kerim provides an extended report in which he looks at the vital issues facing the African leaders, and the emphasis which Muammer Qadhafi's chairmanship of the OAU is likely to provide both on the important political issues such as Namibia and Western Sahara, and on steps towards closer co-operation and unity on the economic level. See pages 9-12.

BOOKS: With the Arab nation, or at least the Arab regimes, deeply divided, a new book profiling the achievements of Gamal Abdul Nasser is timely. A review appears on page 16, which describes the book as 'a valuable reference work on Egypt under Nasser'.

WELCOME TO THE GRAND: Continuing our series of profiles of British companies trading with the Libyan Jamahiriya, this month Gerry Rudman of the W T Partnership reports on the company's work as consultants for the new Grand Hotel which has opened in Tripoli, just in time for the OAU summit.

NEWS REPORTS: Panorama News Review (pages 5 to 8) covers recent developments in the Libyan Jamahiriya's foreign policy, and the rapprochement between Tripoli and Peking, and the reconciliation between Libya and France, as well as Major Jalloud's recent visits to Moscow and Tehran. Trade and Development News is published on pages 18-19.

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A monthly summary of news and events from the Libyan Jamahiriya, the Arab homeland and the Third World

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History repeats itself — again

'WE DON'T covet even one inch [of Lebanon]. We will withdraw our troops, and bring them back home as soon as possible,' Israeli leader Menachem Beigin declared on 21st June, shortly after his meeting with President Reagan.

Each stage in the expansion of the Zionist empire has been accompanied by the same empty claims. The 1948 Palestine war, when the Zionists set up their state and expelled the majority of the Palestinian Arabs, was, according to the Zionist version of history, 'forced' on them by the Arabs' refusal to accept Israel, which wanted only to 'live in peace with its neighbours'.

In 1967 the same cry went up. On 23rd May, less than two weeks before the Israeli attack that ended with the occupation of Sinai, the West Bank and Gaza Strip regions of Palestine, and the Syrian Golan Heights, the Zionist premier Levi Eshkol declared: 'Israel has no aggressive designs'. And on the day the 1967 war started, Israeli defence minister Moshe Dayan asserted: 'Soldiers of Israel, we have no aim of territorial conquest.'

Fifteen years later, the Zionists remain in firm control of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Occupied Arab Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights have been annexed, and all three regions are being frenetically colonised by Zionist settlers.

Beigin says that Israel will withdraw from Lebanon 'as soon as possible'. But the Zionists have set preconditions that make an early evacuation unthinkable. Israel wants to expell both the Syrian peace-keeping forces and the 400,000-strong Palestinian refugee community. It wants to set up a client statelet, headed by Bashir Gemayel, leader of the right wing Phalange Party. This newly 'independent' Lebanon will be expected to sign a Camp David style peace treaty with Israel.

Even after the Zionists have established indirect rule over southern Lebanon through a proxy regime, they will not withdraw from the area south of the Litani River, which the Zionist movement, contrary to Beigin's claims, has always coveted.

History will repeat itself—again. From 1948 to 1967, the Arabs tried in vain to force the Zionists to relinquish those parts of Palestine seized in 1948. After 1967, Israel's 1948 conquests were forgotten. The emphasis turned to an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights. In the coming years the West Bank and Gaza will doubtless be incorporated into the Zionist state, in the same way as the 1948 occupied territories, while Arab and international efforts focus exclusively on engineering an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

The message should by now be clear. If the Zionist were

wrong to invade Lebanon, and wrong to seize and colonise the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights, they were equally wrong to seize two-thirds of Palestine in 1948. All three aggressions were equally illegal, and equally destructive of life and property.

In a single crossing by 120,000 Israeli storm-troopers into Lebanon, international attention was instantly, and perhaps permanently, diverted from the cruel Zionist occupation on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

There are signs that European countries and public opinion are at last beginning to understand the expansionist nature of Zionism, and the justice of the Arab cause. The EEC reaction to the latest Israeli aggression has been very different from the acquiescence, and even approval, that followed the 1967 war.

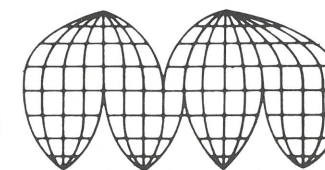
There is no sign, however, of any change in the United States, without whose military and economic aid Israel could not even contemplate its expansionism. The extent of this aid was highlighted by the *Christian Science Monitor* on 29th December last. Dr Thomas Stauffer, a research associate at the Harvard Centre for Middle East Studies, said: 'A fragile and quite indispensable economic lifeline connects Tel Aviv and Washington, providing at no cash cost the weapons that Israel could not buy elsewhere in the world even if it were able to pay. It all adds up to an economic package exceeding \$3 billion per year.' Aid from the US, he added, 'approximates almost one half of Israel's national income'.

It is self evident that the US could, if it wanted to, curb the Zionist state's expansionism virtually overnight by exerting its economic and military leverage. But there is every sign that, far from attempting even to restrain the Zionists, the White House gave its full approval for the Zionist onslaught on Lebanon.

Faced with the repeated refusal of Israel and its main backer, the United States, to respect the most elementary principles of international law and justice, the Arab nation has only one option: military force. There is not a shred of evidence that Palestinian and Arab rights, endorsed by the United Nations, can be attained any other way.

Yet Arab unity, the essential precondition for effective Arab military action against the Zionists, seems as distant as ever. Even if the Arab regimes could reach a common stance on the Palestine question it would be a major advance. Instead, Arab resources are being frittered away on inter-necine disputes, and on the costly war with Iran, which since the overthrow of the Shah has been a natural ally of the Palestinians. It is a bleak prospect, but it poses the greatest single challenge facing the Arab nation. Put at its simplest, the choice is between unity, or perpetual subjugation by Israel.

A monthly
review of
Libyan, Islamic
and Third World
affairs



PANORAMA
news review

Jamahiriya urges Arab Nation to unite to resist Zionist invasion

FOLLOWING THE savage and genocidal Zionist invasion of Lebanon, the Libyan Jamahiriya has called upon the Arab nation to declare a total military, political and economic war on Israel.

Libya has also mounted an intensive diplomatic campaign aimed at securing concrete support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, and its allies in the Lebanese National Movement. In addition, the Jamahiriya has criticised both super powers for their stands on the invasion, accusing the United States of complicity in the invasion itself, and rebuking the Soviet Union for its failure to give the expected diplomatic and military support to the Arab struggle against the invaders.

On 7th June, the day after Zionist ground forces entered Lebanon, the Jamahiriya's Foreign Liaison Bureau reaffirmed Libya's readiness to defend Lebanon and the Palestine Revolution. Recalling the 1980 offer from Libya to supply Lebanon with a modern air defence system, the Bureau stressed that the Jamahiriya was still ready to provide all necessary air and air defence cover for the country.

The Bureau also called on 11th June for the resistance by Palestinian and Lebanese National Movement forces to be escalated into 'an all-out war', involving all the Arab states. It called upon the Arab nation as a whole to place all its strength, including military and economic capabilities, including oil, at the disposal of the PLO and Syria.

Libyan revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi later reacted to the failure of Arab governments to attach any urgency to the need for action. 'What is required, with or without a summit meeting, is forcing the enemy to withdraw from Lebanon, and rejecting any condition, whatever the price,' he said in a message to Arab President and kings on 30th June. 'Every Arab state, by virtue of its Arabism, is obliged to sacrifice what the Lebanese people is sacrificing, and to sustain the losses Syria is sustaining.'

He went on to point out that



Israeli jets bomb West Beirut

the Zionist attempt to destroy the Palestine Liberation Organisation was a threat not merely to the Palestinians and the people of Lebanon, but to the Arab nation as a whole.

'The important thing is that this time, danger threatens the Palestine Resistance, and the future of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation, on which, if we are to allow the enemy to succeed in this plan, the enemy will impose a surrender . . . Destroying the Resistance is tantamount to destroying the Arab nation, and handing over its arms means surrender by the Arab nation.'

'Words do not mean anything, and any analysis is nothing but a waste of time,' Qadhafi pointed out. 'The solution lies in sending Arab forces from every country immediately to take part in Beirut's eternal battle, bolstering the Syrian front, and allowing volunteers to fight on all fronts,' he said.

The Libyan leader went on to demand that the United States be placed on an Arab black-list, and that the Egyptian people must 'destroy the bridges of high treason which link them with the enemy . . . [They] should call on Egypt to return to confrontation with the enemy.'

Brother Qadhafi had previously sent a message to Khaled Mohieddin, leader of the Progressive

National Unionist Party, a key component of the Egyptian opposition. Stressing that the invasion of Lebanon was a direct result of the Camp David accords, the Libyan leader declared that Egypt 'no longer had any pretext to adhere unilaterally to a treaty which has lost even its false legality,' and said that a continued commitment to Camp David implied 'unlimited readiness to be subjugated and humiliated, and unparalleled neglect of patriotic dignity.' If Egypt did not respond to the Zionist aggression by repudiating Camp David, he went on, it would lose all credibility as a nationalist Arab country.

Qadhafi's appeal to the Egyptian people was echoed by the Tripoli-based Arab People's Congress (APC), a loose coalition of Arab nationalist groups from throughout the region. In a statement on 11th June reported by JANA, the APC appealed to Egyptians to volunteer to fight alongside Palestinian and Lebanese resistance forces.

'The meaning of the Camp David peace has now become clear,' the appeal said. 'It is the peace that kills hundreds of your fellow Arabs; a peace that mobilises thousands of Israeli soldiers, armed with the most sophisticated weapons, to massacre the Arabs in Lebanon.'

It added, 'The choice is whether to live in freedom, with dignity, in our land, or to die honourably as martyrs,' the agency reported.

Top officials of the Jamahiriya have strongly accused the Reagan administration in the United States of complicity in the Israeli nation. Speaking in the General Assembly of the United Nations on 27th June, the Jamahiriya's Chargé d'Affaires said that the US government was obstructing all United Nations resolutions aimed at stopping the aggression. This obstruction was in accordance with America's foreign policy, which was 'devoid of any moral values and principles,' he said.

Muammer Qadhafi has also called for the US special envoy, Philip Habib, to be 'expelled from Arab land'. No Arab government should talk to him, and 'his humiliating mediation must be rejected,' the Libyan leader said.

This criticism of the US role was endorsed by former Lebanese Prime Minister Selim al Hoss. In a message on 30th June to Lebanon's President Sarkis, Mr al Hoss demanded that he should speak out against the American position, and tell Reagan 'You are responsible; you can put an end to the massacre but you are not doing anything about it. You are responsible more than anyone else in the world, because you alone

can stop Israel, but you do not do so. You are responsible for every innocent soul that is being wasted because the warplane that pours lava on our heads, the artillery that destroys the buildings over our bodies, and the shells that kill people are all being sent by you. You are responsible, because you encourage the aggressor to continue his aggression.'

The Jamahiriya has also forcefully expressed its dissatisfaction with the role played by the Soviet Union. As early as 8th June, Staff Major Adbussalaam Jalloud received the Soviet Ambassador to Tripoli, and reportedly called on Moscow to supply Syria and the PLO with arms to counter the Zionist invasion.

At the end of the month, however, with Arab dismay at the inactivity of the Soviet Union rising, Brother Qadhafi summoned the ambassador, together with the envoys of the Eastern European states to meet him. He berated the Soviet stand, and Moscow's failure to help the Arab struggle. He warned that unless action was taken, Arab resolutions with the USSR would 'burn like Beirut is burning'.

The Jamahiriya's diplomatic campaign to gather support for the Arab cause has also indicated the Non-Aligned Movement. Early in June, Abdel Ati al Ubeidi, the Jamahiriya's Foreign Liaison Secretary, met with the ambassadors of Yugoslavia, India and Cuba, urging action by the non-aligned to confront the Zionist aggression. Under the terms of the Charter of the movement, he pointed out, members were supposed to provide joint defence assistance to any other members subjected to aggression.

Military exercises in Gulf of Sirte

TO MARK the twelfth anniversary of the evacuation of US military bases in Libya, the Jamahiriya's armed forces on 11th June staged major military manoeuvres, involving land, sea and air defence units. Muammer Qadhafi, Supreme Commander of Libya's armed forces, accompanied by the General Commander, Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jaber, watched while a mock amphibious landing along the shores of the Gulf of Sirte was repulsed by defending sea, land and air forces.

The evacuation anniversary was also marked by a number of messages of support for the Al Fateh Revolution, including one addressed to Muammer Qadhafi from Daniel Ortega, a member of the National Command of the

Sandinista Front, and Co-ordinator of Nicaragua's National Reconstruction Government.

The Libyan leader also met with Joseph Bouadi, a member of Ghana's Provisional National Defence Council, who headed his country's delegation to the anniversary celebrations.

Support for Libya's OAU role

POWERFUL SUPPORT for the Jamahiriya's Chairmanship of the Organisation of African Unity came on Africa Day in late May from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba. In a message to Muammer Qadhafi, Bourguiba expressed concern at growing tensions in the African continent. The key threat to the OAU stemmed from 'the alliance of the racist regimes in South Africa and Israel, which continues to plot against solidarity between the African and Arab peoples.'

The Tunisian President appealed to the Jamahiriya 'to initiate a joint action to achieve our aims', and with an expression of hope that this year, Africa Day would see 'the start of a new phase of peace, stability, progress and co-operation'.

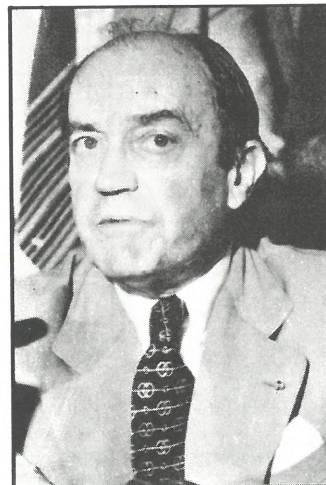
□ Further reports on the OAU Summit in August in Tripoli begin on page nine.

New era in relations with France

A NEW era in relations between the Libyan Jamahiriya and France opened on 1st June, when Major Abdel Salam Jalloud received French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson at the start of a two-day visit to Tripoli that included talks with Foreign Liaison Secretary Abdel Ati al Ubeidi.

Mr al Ubeidi affirmed the Jamahiriya's wish for even closer ties with Paris, and went on to explain to the French Foreign Minister Libya's concern at the presence of foreign military bases in the Mediterranean region.

Libya, said Mr al Ubeidi, 'feels that its neutrality is threatened as long as there are bases on the Mediterranean shores facing it, which are used for provocations, threats and aggressions against the Libyan Arab people'. He cited in particular Washington's repeated use of Mediterranean bases for naval manoeuvres in the Gulf of Sirte, which falls within Libya's territorial waters.



Claude Cheysson

M Cheysson, in reply, assured his hosts that neither France, nor Europe as a whole, supported President Reagan's attempts to undermine the integrity of the Jamahiriya. France, he added, was ready to develop relations with Tripoli in all fields, regardless of the US position. The French Government, he said, would continue to encourage French companies to participate in the Jamahiriya's socio-economic development plans.

M Cheysson revealed that his country had not merely refused to join the boycott of Libya imposed earlier this year by Reagan: 'We even took contrary steps, and bolstered our co-operation,' he declared.

Relations between Tripoli and Paris became frosty in 1980, when angry Libyans protesting at French interference in Chad damaged the French embassy in the Libyan capital. Since the victory of François Mitterand's Socialist Party in the French general election last year, however, relations have steadily improved. Sales of defence equipment, halted by Giscard d'Estaing, have been resumed, and in April Paris radio disclosed that the Mitterand Government 'considers that a dialogue can be resumed between Paris and Tripoli, as Libya has withdrawn its troops in Chad, rebuilt the French embassy in Tripoli, and released the Dupont family'. The Duponts had been held briefly earlier this year for contravening Libyan visa regulations, and on suspicion of spying.

Rome talks stress mutual interests

'PERSISTENT ITALIAN and Libyan willingness to continue economic co-operation in a clear and harmonious framework, but maintaining an active dialogue in

the interests of stability and peace in the Mediterranean.' That is how Rome radio on 26th May summed up the main themes of week-long consultations between Italian leaders and a Libyan delegation headed by Staff Major Abdel Salem Jalloud.

During the visit, Major Jalloud held talks with Italian Premier Giovanni Spadolini, Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo, Foreign Trade Minister Nicola Caprio, and the leaders of Italian political parties.

The tour underlined the importance the Jamahiriya attaches to relations with western Europe, and came shortly after revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi's highly successful visit to Austria in March.

The Libyan delegation's composition reflected the emphasis on smoothing trade between the two countries. It included Foreign Liaison Secretary Abdel Ati al Ubeidi, Heavy Industry Secretary Omar al Muntasser, and Mr Rajab al Misallati, the Governor of the Jamahiriya's Central Bank.

The talks centred on trade, but wider issues were not ignored, and there was agreement on the need to transform the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and stability, and a bridge for the promotion of understanding between the Arab and European peoples.

A highlight of the Libyan delegation's visit came on 22nd May when Major Jalloud was granted an audience with Pope John Paul II. Although Islam is one of the pillars of the Al Fateh Revolution, the Jamahiriya is fully aware of the shared inheritance of the Muslim and Christian religions, and has consistently encouraged a deeper mutual understanding. In 1976 Tripoli hosted an Islamic-Christian Conference, attended by key Vatican officials, and the seminar ended with the declaration of a continuing and wide ranging dialogue between Tripoli and the Roman Catholic Church.

Jalloud holds talks in Moscow

LIBYA'S RELATIONS with the Soviet Union were the subject of two days of discussions in Moscow in late May between the Soviet leadership and a visiting delegation from the Jamahiriya headed by Major Abdel Salem Jalloud. During the visit, Major Jalloud held talks with President Leonid Brezhnev, Premier Nikolai Tikhonov and Defence Minister Marshall Dimitri Ustinov.

Another key member of the Libyan delegation, Heavy Industry Secretary Omar Muntasser, held discussions with the Soviet Minister of Planning on strengthening economic and cultural ties.

During a banquet in honour of the Libyan visitors, Major Jalloud stressed that relations between Moscow and Tripoli served not only the two countries' interests, but also the cause of peace, progress and socialism.

The US habitually attempts to portray the Jamahiriya as a 'Soviet puppet', but the reality is very different. Libya is committed to non-alignment, shunning undue dependence on either major superpower. The Al Fateh Revolution is firmly opposed to all attempts by foreign powers to impose their domination on the Arab nation, or elsewhere in the Third World.

The hostile attitude of Washington towards Libya and its revolutionary leadership, however, and the positive attitude of Moscow on the Palestine question, had nurtured a close relationship between the Soviet Union and the Jamahiriya, but the relationship is one of equality. Tripoli has never been subservient to Moscow, and has never allowed any Soviet military bases in the country.

New moves in Tripoli-Peking ties

AN IMPORTANT landmark in Libyan-Chinese relations came on 8th June when the two countries signed an agreement to expand their trade ties.

The agreement, concluded at the end of a visit to Libya by a delegation from China's Foreign Trade and Economy Committee is the latest sign of the strengthening relations between Tripoli and Peking after a period of strain that culminated in 1979 with the Jamahiriya severing diplomatic ties over China's support for the Sadat regime.

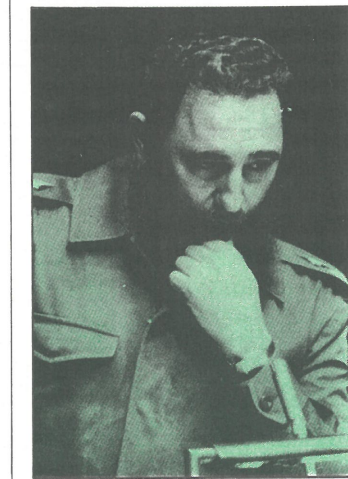
But when the International Forum against Imperialism, Zionism and Reaction met in Tripoli in March this year, revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi expressed regret that China was not represented. He said that China was well qualified to attend by its status as a major Third World country which played a deterrent role in safeguarding other people's independence, adding: 'It would be wise to leave the door open for China to join this forum when it decides to break its ties once and for all with imperialist forces that are opposed to the people at this forum.'

In May, Mr Hua Yong, a special envoy from the People's Republic of China, paid a short official visit to the Jamahiriya, during which he held talks with Major Abdel Salam Jalloud, and Foreign Liaison Secretary Abdul Ati al Ubeidi.

The talks centred on bilateral relations, and Mr Yong spoke warmly of the Jamahiriya's achievements, saying that a strong Libya under the leadership of Muammer Qadhafi was in the interests of both the Chinese and Libyan peoples.

Non-aligned movement talks in Havana

FOREIGN MINISTERS of the Non-Aligned Movement, meeting in the Cuban capital Havana, have given full backing to Libya in its conflict with the United States in the Mediterranean. In a statement on 7th June, the Ministers sharply condemned the July 1981 US aggression against the Jamahiriya, when warplanes from America's Sixth Fleet shot down two Libyan jets over the Jamahiriya's territorial waters in the Gulf of Sirte. The attack was a threat to international peace and security, and an assault on the Non-Aligned Movement's efforts to neutralise the Mediterranean as a sphere of East-West conflict, the Foreign Ministers declared.



Fidel Castro

The Non-Aligned Movement was set up in the 1950s by Third World countries determined to avoid undue dependence on either of the two major superpowers. Nasser's Egypt, India, Yugoslavia and Indonesia were amongst the founder members. A number of nominally non-aligned countries, however, have since shown considerable disregard for the Movement's ideals, having entered military pacts with the United States.

Stressing that the delegates from more than eighty Third World Countries were meeting at a critical time in the Movement's history, Dr Ali Abdesalam Treiki, the Jamahiriya's UN representative, and head of the Libyan delegation to the Havana conference, called for a review

of the commitment of non-aligned countries to the Movement's ideals. Western states, he noted, had even managed to recruit into their camp some of the founder members.

During his visit to Cuba, Dr Treiki also held important bilateral talks with heads of delegations from other Third World countries, and on 5th June met with Cuban President Fidel Castro, who is current Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Grenada's premier visits Tripoli

INCREASED BILATERAL co-operation was the theme of talks held on 16th June between Muammer Qadhafi and Mr Maurice Bishop, Premier of the Caribbean island of Grenada. Links between Libya and Grenada have developed rapidly since March 1979, when Mr Bishop's New Jewel Movement seized power and established a People's Revolutionary Government to replace the western-orientated regime of Sir Eric Gairy. Revolutionary Grenada, like the Jamahiriya, is firmly committed to policies of non-alignment, shunning dependence on either of the major superpowers.

During his visit to Tripoli, Mr Bishop and his delegation held wide-ranging talks aimed at bolstering the already close ties between the two countries. The Grenadian team was also briefed on political developments in the Arab region, and notably on the Zionist invasion of Lebanon.

Iranian support for Steadfast Arabs

A CALL for a broadening of the membership of the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front to include all Muslim countries was a highlight of a June visit to Iran by a high-powered Libyan delegation headed by Major Abdel Salam Jalloud. As well as offering full support to the Arab Steadfastness Front, the Islamic Republican authorities also expressed the hope of setting up an Islamic Liberation Army, as part of the international effort to counter imperialism.

In a speech delivered at the start of the first session of the Libyan-Iranian talks, Major Jalloud stressed the importance of strategic solidarity and co-operation between the Islamic and Al Fateh Revolutions. The West feared the Jamahiriya and

Iran, he said, because of the centrality of Islam in both their Revolutions, and because of the threat they therefore posed to materialistic philosophies.

In reply, Iranian Premier Hussein Moussavi stressed his conviction that the Jamahiriya was able to play a key role in bringing about the Islamic unity cherished by both countries.

Affirming Iranian support for the Arab Steadfastness Front, set up to counter the Camp David accords and other US schemes to undermine the independence of the Arab nation, Mr Moussavi called for a broadening of the Front's base to include all Muslim peoples. 'The strength of millions of Muslims will lead to strong confrontation of Zionism and world imperialism,' he declared. At present, the Arab Steadfastness Front links the Libyan Jamahiriya, Syria, Algeria, Democratic Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The Libyan delegation to Iran included Mr Musa Abu Freiwa, Secretary for Economy and Light Industry, Mr Abu Zaid Umar Dourda, Secretary for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation, Secretary for Oil Mr Kamal Hassan al Maqhur, and the Jamahiriya's Secretary for Revolutionary Information. A number of sub-committees were set up to discuss a strengthening of bilateral Libyan-Iranian relations in the fields of transport and communications, light industry, oil, trade, information and culture. During the Libyan delegation's visit, Major Jalloud held important talks in the Holy City of Qom with Ayatollah Hussein Ali Muntazeri, one of Iran's most senior religious leaders.

Firm stand on Egypt

FOREIGN MINISTERS of the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front have warned Arab countries against restoring ties with Egypt, and called for vigilance in the face of renewed US attempts to dominate the region.

The Front, set up in Tripoli in 1977 to counter the Camp David accords, links the Libyan Jamahiriya, Algeria, Syria, Democratic Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. It sees a resumption of ties with Egypt as tantamount to granting formal recognition to the Zionist state, wedded to Cairo by the Camp David peace treaty.

Almost all Arab countries severed diplomatic relations with Egypt after Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, but there are signs that certain regimes are reconsidering their position. In early June, Moroccan Foreign Minister

► Muhammad Boucetta paid the first visit to Cairo by an Arab country that had severed its links with Sadat.

At the Algiers meeting, the Steadfastness Front Foreign Ministers urged Arab countries 'to continue their boycott of the Egyptian regime until it liberates itself' from Camp David. The meeting urged the Arab nation to resist all attempts by the US to dominate the region, and in particular warned against granting Washington any military facilities. Military alliances with the US, such as those it has concluded with Egypt, Sudan, Morocco, Oman and Somalia, were sharply denounced.

The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the Palestinian liberation struggle, and restated that Arab rights could be secured only through total confrontation with Israel.

On the Western Sahara, where Polisario Front guerrillas are waging a liberation war against occupying Moroccan troops, the Front reaffirmed its commitment to OAU and UN resolutions calling for self-determination for the Sahrawi people.

The Foreign Ministers condemned Zaire's recent restoration of diplomatic ties with Israel as a violation of resolutions of the OAU and Non-aligned Movement, and as a threat to African co-operation.

Iraq and its conservative Arab allies had been calling for Egyptian troops to help shore up the Baghdad regime in its war against Iran, and this had been widely seen as one of the routes by which Egypt might seek to return to the Arab fold. The Steadfastness Front explicitly rejected 'all attempts to widen the Iran-Iraq war through the involvement of other parties, amongst them the Egyptian regime'.

Mr Abdel Ati al Ubeidi, the Jamahiriya's Foreign Liaison Secretary, disclosed that the Front had also declared that Iran was 'a friendly revolution', to which the Arabs should not be hostile. 'Iran is not an enemy,' he added.

The same day as the Algiers meeting, Iran announced the recapture of its key port city of Khorramshahr, signalling an imminent victory for Tehran in the prolonged Gulf War.

Progressive forum launched

'THE BIRTH of a new political phenomenon.' That is how Libyan revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi described the first general conference of the Tripoli-based International Forum for Resisting Imperialism, Racism, Reaction and Zionism.

The forum is a grouping of



El Salvador fighters join new forum

liberation movements and progressive nations from many parts of the Third World. Its purpose is to co-ordinate their individual struggles within an overall collective liberation strategy. The new body was formed in accordance with a resolution of the August 1981 International Conference in Solidarity with the Libyan People, convened after the US navy violated the Jamahiriya's territorial waters, and shot down two Libyan jets over the Gulf of Sirte.

In his inaugural address to the Forum's first general conference on 15th June, Muammer Qadhafi said that the body 'brought together the forces which have been struggling separately to oppose the common enemy'. Describing the Forum's key task as to draw up a 'collective defence strategy for the forces of freedom, progress and peace throughout the world, he said that the new grouping was necessary because of the 'failure of international organisations, including the UN Security Council and the International Court of Justice in The Hague, which has forced peoples of the Third World and liberation movements in small oppressed countries to unite their efforts'.

The Libyan leader affirmed that membership of the Progressive Forum was open only to the 'small, oppressed and colonised peoples of the Third World, who do not have a veto in the Security Council, and who are so far not members of the nuclear club'. The people involved spanned the globe, 'from China to Chile'. He stressed that the Soviet Union and its European allies were 'allies of this forum, but not members'.

Qadhafi listed a number of territories where the anti-imperialist struggle was particularly fierce at present. 'The forces and peoples making up this forum,' he declared, 'should join collectively in the battles for El

Salvador, Beirut, Palestine, South Africa, Namibia, Guatemala, Honduras, Chile, Sudan, Somalia, Egypt, Oman, Western Sahara, Diego Garcia and the Golan Heights, as well as the defence of Cuba, Nicaragua, the Gulf of Sirte and Angola'.

One of the major tasks of the Tripoli conference was to discuss a 37-article Charter drawn up for the Forum by a preparatory committee. The key article declares support for national liberation movements in their political and armed struggle to regain usurped territories, achieve true independence and resist all forms of racism and Zionism, and to fight against inhuman treatment of minorities, and all aspects of discrimination based on colour, race or religion.

Unity moves with Algeria

A WIDE ranging agreement on sports and youth activities has become one of the first fruits of a recent joint meeting in Algiers between the General People's Committee — the Libyan equivalent of a cabinet — and the Algerian Council of Ministers.

The agreement, signed on 27th May in Tripoli by visiting Algerian Youth and Sports Minister Noureddin al Beka, and the Jamahiriya's Sports Secretary Ibrahim Khuwaydir, provides for the joint formulation of laws and regulations on sports and youth activities, leading to a unified system in both countries.

The agreement also provided for co-operation in industrial projects related to sports, and approved the formation of a joint committee to draw up annual youth activity programmes, starting with a schedule for this year.

Algeria and the Jamahiriya also

agreed to step up meetings between their respective sports and youth associations, clubs and unions.

On 10th June high level talks on bilateral co-operation in the fields of research and higher education were held between Education Secretary Abdel Hafiz az Zulaytini and a visiting Algerian delegation headed by Mr Abdullah Aladrami, Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research.

In January, the General People's Congress, the Libyan legislature, resolved that the Jamahiriya and Algeria should start moves towards unity, but that it should be a union of policies, and not a territorial or political merger. The two countries already closely co-ordinate their foreign policies, both being members of the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, set up to counter the Camp David accords and other US schemes to undermine the Arab nation's independence.

At April's joint meeting of Libya's General People's Committee and the Algerian Council of Ministers, a series of concrete proposals was approved, aimed at unifying Libyan and Algerian internal policies.

Islamic aid teams for Africa

THE TRIPOLI-based Islamic Call Society, set up to encourage the spread of Islam, is to step up its missionary and aid programme in Africa, the Jamahiriya news agency JANA announced in May. The agency said that teams of doctors, engineers and students will be sent to a number of African countries, but gave no further details.

Arabs spurn Zaire

ZAIRE'S RESTORATION of diplomatic links with Israel on 21st May, severed after the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, has prompted a firm Arab reaction, with most Arab countries, including the Libyan Jamahiriya, cutting ties with the African state.

The Arab reaction has not been confined to diplomatic moves. Zaire is one of Africa's poorest countries, and has been heavily dependent on Arab financial assistance. But the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), the main channel for Arab aid to the continent, has now declared a halt to all assistance to Kinshasa. In the 1973-80 period, BADEA aid to Zaire totalled \$36.8 million.

KEY LEADERS from throughout Africa have welcomed initiatives being taken by the Libyan Jamahiriya to ensure the success of the forthcoming nineteenth summit conference of the Organisation of African Unity, due to take place in Tripoli in August. Despite predictions from the United States and its allies that the summit would be a failure due to the issue of the admission of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic to membership of the OAU, the African reaction thus far indicates that in contrast, the meeting looks set for success.

Top African leaders, like Alhaji Shehu Shagari of Nigeria, Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, Milton Obote of Uganda, Jerry Rawlings of Ghana and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia have already indicated their intention of attending the conference. President Arap Moi, talking to a Libyan emissary in mid-June, praised the efforts being undertaken by the Jamahiriya to ensure the success of the conference. He was quoted by JANA as saying that the efforts 'are clear evidence of her true desire to provide all necessary means for the success and progress of the African organisation'.

With preparations for the holding of the summit now far advanced, a team of top Libyan emissaries fanned out throughout the continent in the last two weeks of June, carrying messages from Libyan revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi to the various heads of states and heads of governments being invited to attend the summit. Most of the OAU's member states were visited by the emissaries, who included Energy Secretary Abdul Majeed Gaud, the secretary of the Peoples Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau, Abdul Ati Obeidi, the secretary of the General Peoples Congress, Mohammed Zaruk Rajab, and Dr Ali Abdussalaam Treiki, the Jamahiriya's envoy at the United Nations and Libya's Foreign Secretary until earlier this year.

Among the states visited were Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Gabon, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Lesotho, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Togo, Benin, Liberia, Madagascar, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya and Zimbabwe. Senior Ministers from several countries also visited the Jamahiriya for talks on the forthcoming summit conference, bearing messages from their Presidents, including the Foreign Ministers of the Congo, Lesotho and Mali.

The Libyan leader also met in late June with the leader of the Polisario movement, Mohammed Abdul Aziz, for talks relating to the summit meeting, and the Saharan membership issue.

The Ghanaian revolutionary leader, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, told the Jamahiriya's emissary, Dr Treiki, that the summit was 'a point of departure for a new stage in the African struggle against all conspiracies against the unity and the peace of the continent'. JANA quoted



Libya to host OAU summit

Tripoli prepares for crucial summit

AS THE Jamahiriya prepares for what is seen as a crucial summit of the OAU, Abdullah Kerim looks at events leading up to the meeting

Rawlings as saying that 'The OAU conference is the right place to solve all the problems of Africa, through an African spirit which will first and foremost secure its interests.' His call for the OAU to tackle the problems facing the continent was echoed by other African leaders, including President Milton Obote of Uganda, who also criticised the propaganda of the western media designed to undermine the conference, and to attack the Jamahiriya. Others praised the role of the Jamahiriya in the field of humanitarian and economic assistance to the rest of the continent.

US schemes

The summit will be held at a time of increased plots against African unity, such as the American-inspired decision by the administration in Zaire to restore its diplomatic relations with the Israelis, and renewed subversion by the apartheid regime in South Africa against Angola and Mozambique. At the same time, the Israeli genocidal onslaught against the Palestinian and Lebanese people during June, which again received overt support

from the United States, has increased the sense of tension in the north of the continent, as American-planned and directed manoeuvres continue against Arab and African interests in the region.

In a speech to African ambassadors on 25th May, on the occasion of Africa Day, Muammer Qadhafi stressed that the Jamahiriya was determined to exert all necessary efforts to ensure the success of the forthcoming conference. In particular, he said, the conference should see a solution to the question of the admission to membership of the SADR, despite attempts by the enemies of Africa to use it to undermine the organisation.

By the end of June, most member states of the OAU had already expressed their intention of participating in the Tripoli meeting at a high level, with influential countries such as Nigeria stressing that participation on the widest possible scale was a duty and a necessity.

When the summit opens, it seems clear that the predictions in the Western media of it being a failure will be exposed as yet another piece of American black propaganda both against the Jamahiriya and against the African continent as a whole.

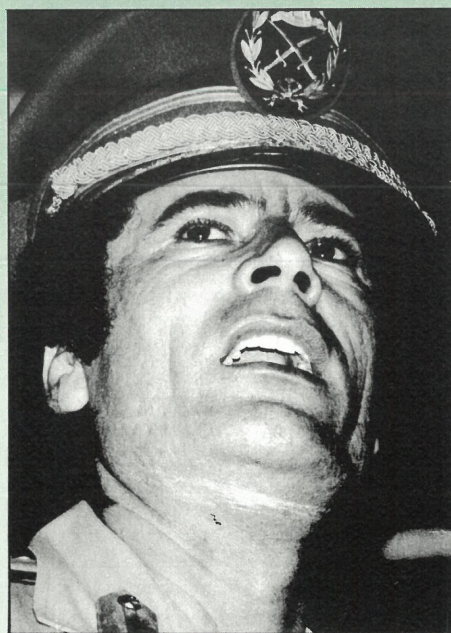
Member states, aware of the importance of issues facing them, ranging from the need to confront imperialist plans to divide the continent, to direct aggression by the South African and Israeli regimes to the need for greater co-operation amongst members, have already shown their intention that the summit will be a success.

The OAU summit: Confronting a tripartite organisation

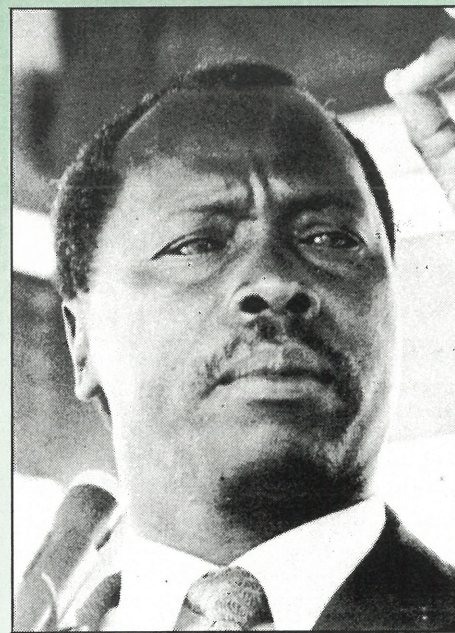
IN AUGUST, member states of the Organisation of African Unity gather for their annual heads-of-state meeting in Tripoli, capital of the Libyan Jamahiriya.

Confronting the arriving leaders will be a series of major political and economic issues, all of which centre around one long-term objective: how can the African continent, and other areas of the 'Third World' move towards genuine political and economic development, while at the same time ensuring that they themselves remain masters of their own fate.

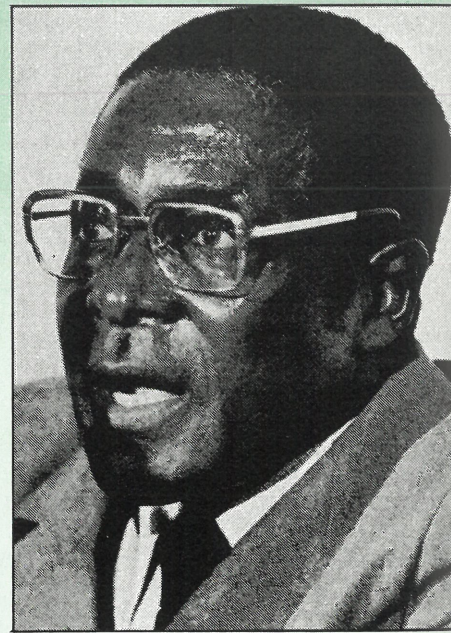
In the following features, Abdullah Karim examines some of the political and economic issues facing Africa's Heads of State and Governments as they gather for what could prove to be the Organisation's most crucial summit conference.



Libya's Muammar Qaddafi



Kenya's Arap Moi



Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe

'WHAT WE in Africa need to do is to exorcise from our minds the myth that we cannot survive without the so-called developed world. We must co-operate with one another as a first option, and look outside the continent as a last resort.'

Such was the comment of Accra Radio a few months ago. Behind the assessment lies a realisation of the nature of the problems facing the African continent as the Organisation of African Unity prepares to meet for its annual summit conference in Tripoli.

Over the past few months, there have been serious assaults against the integrity of the continent from three quarters, in its extreme south, in its north west, and from its north east. In the southern tip of Africa, the racist apartheid regime in South Africa has felt sufficiently confident, with American backing, to continue

to resist demands from the rest of the world for its withdrawal from Namibia. Indeed, not only is it sure that the Western powers will continue to veto any resolution with teeth that may reach the UN Security Council, but also it knows that it can continue its aggression against Angola and its attempts to destabilise the Government of Mozambique without fear of world response. With the cold-war theorising of the Reagan regime, which sees the threat of 'Communism' as the only major world issue, to support its objectives, the South African regime has even openly lent its backing to the attempt to overthrow the Government of the Seychelles through a mercenary coup.

In the north west of the continent, the Reagan administration has made use of one of its closest allies, the Moroccan Government. In exchange for continuing to support its attempts to suppress the

liberation struggle of the people of Sahara, Washington has succeeded in extracting a promise from Morocco that facilities will be made available for American troops on the way to the Middle East — a crucial stage for the Haig-sponsored 'Rapid Deployment Force', whose objective, nakedly is not the preservation of the independence of the region, but rather the preservation of its resources for the advanced countries. In the pursuit of this objective, the United States has been happy to sacrifice to the tender mercies of the Moroccans the struggling Sahrawi people, who now face not merely Moroccan invaders, but also American technology, arms and advisers.

In the Middle East, the completion of the final stage of the Camp David 'peace accords' in April, with the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, left the Zionist regime free to launch its criminal attack against

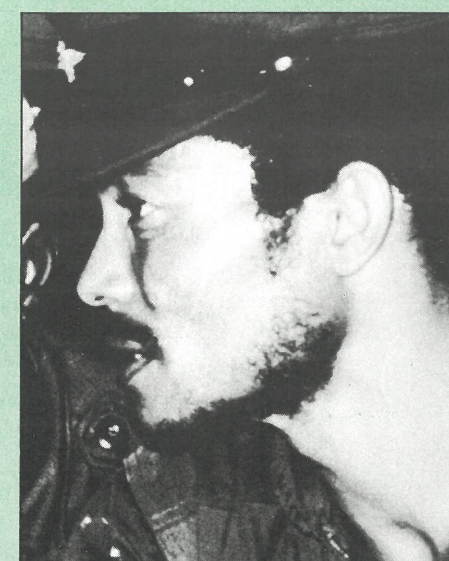
the Lebanon in June, knowing that the Egyptian Government, with so much economic and political capital invested in the Camp David process, would not lift a finger to support the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

A further example of increasing Zionist arrogance in the post-Sinai period came with the decision by Zaire to resume diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv. The bankruptcy of the Zairean Government, in political and economic terms, reduced the impact of the move, since most African Governments were well aware that the Kinshasa administration had long since abandoned any pretence of independence from the United States. Nonetheless, the move gave the Zionists their first major foothold in central Africa since 1973, with all the dangers of the exacerbation of inter-African divisions that follow.

Southern Africa

There have, too, been indications of the ways in which these three powers collaborate in a joint attempt to sabotage Africa's attempts to unite and to secure its own real independence. During the recent war in the South Atlantic, the well-established military links between the Zionist and apartheid administrations again received attention, with South Africa openly acting as a conduit for the sale and dispatch of Israeli arms. At the same time, the liberation movement in Namibia, the South West African Peoples Organisation, SWAPO, has continued to report evidence of Israeli involvement, with both arms and advisers, in Namibia and in South African incursions into Angola.

These actions, taken separately or together, represent a clear challenge to the OAU Heads of State that they will, it is to be hoped, take up with some urgency. Earlier this year, following the refusal of the Moroccan Government to concede independence to the people of the Sahara, the OAU admitted the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, SADR, as its newest member state. The failure by some African



Ghana's Gerry Rawlings

countries to endorse this can only help to perpetuate African divisions, and to encourage further American interference in north-west Africa.

In the southern cone of the continent, the Pretoria regime, basking in the new public role of ally and trusted friend of the Washington administration, has been strengthened in its refusal to withdraw from Namibia, while the internal repression, and aggression against Angola and Mozambique, continues unchecked.

In the north east of the continent, the presence in the Middle East of an ever more openly expansionist Zionist state, operating with private support and public acquiescence from the United States is a significant threat to the peace of the region, a threat that, due to South African links, has implications for the continent as a whole. Having supported the Arab nation in 1973 by breaking diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv, the continent must continue to set its face against a resumption of ties, whether public, as in the case of Zaire, or covert, as has been the case with several other African countries.

Old links

In the aftermath of the colonial era, even though that began to pass away more than two decades ago, it is not surprising that economic and political relations between African states and the former metropolitan powers should remain strong. Nor, indeed, is there any reason why Africa should not have good relations with Europe, provided that those relations are based upon equality and understanding.

The key to the present situation, however, is that whenever individual African states have sought to convert the old neo-colonial relationship into one more befitting an independent country, they have faced problems designed to make that change almost impossible to achieve. Indeed, far from being content with simply trying to preserve the *status quo*, the United States and its allies, in both the political and economic spheres, are now trying to turn the clock back, and to destroy successes already achieved.

Destabilisation

The long record of attempts to destabilise the Libyan Jamahiriya that began following the successful campaign by the Jamahiriya against the international oil companies is but one example. Incidents such as the Gulf of Sirte provocation a year ago indicate that the attempts continue, despite their continual failure.

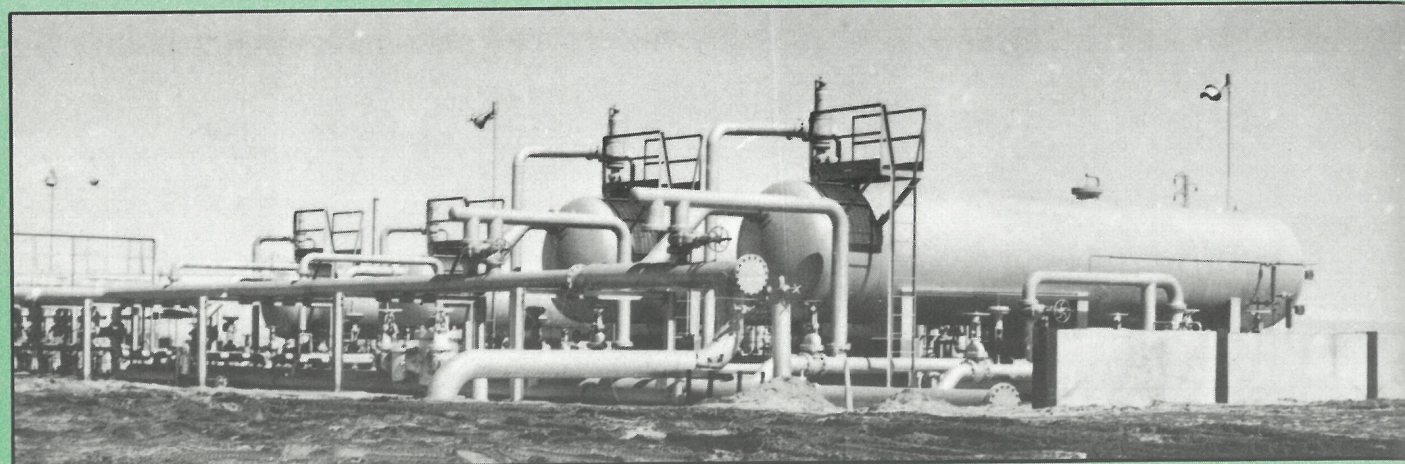
In several other African countries such as Ghana and Mozambique similar destabilisation campaigns are under way.

The lesson to be learned by the people of Africa, and their governments, is that outlined by the Accra Radio commentator quoted earlier. Through political and economic co-operation, the continent can, with determination, manage to resist the tripartite offensive being launched against its independence.

Africa should learn that subservience to the interests of foreign powers is no guarantee of future prosperity or stability, however slavish that subservience may be.



Summit issue: Polisario's liberation struggle



Economic independence for Africa

Economic co-operation: a key to political strength

THE ACHIEVEMENT of balanced economic development within Africa, and the move towards the creation of a new international economic order that reflects the political nature of the continent's post-colonial era can only come about through the development of proper co-operation between the continent's states. Such was the message delivered to a meeting of Organisation of African Unity Planning and Economy Ministers in Tripoli earlier this year by Major Abdul Salam Jalloud.

'The advanced industries have placed all types of obstacles in the path of those who want to create a just world economic order,' he told the Ministers. 'These countries want to keep the backward world forever backward, and to confine independence in Africa to raising a flag and having a President. They do not want independence to acquire its political, economic, cultural and social meaning.'

Major Jalloud's speech came at a time when the very foundations of the economy of one of Africa's key states, Nigeria, were under attack by an unholy combination of the governments of the advanced industrial nations and the international oil companies. Capitalising on the temporary weaknesses of the international oil market, the industrial nations and the oil companies broke contracts with the Government of Nigeria for oil supplies. It was hoped to sabotage the effectiveness of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, and, at the same time, to cripple the political strength of one of those African countries most opposed to the continual strengthening of links between western governments and the racist apartheid regime in South Africa. They hoped to kill two birds with one stone — to break OPEC, and weaken African opposition to apartheid.

In fact, however, the well-orchestrated and well-planned plot failed. Other OPEC members, including the Jamahiriya, refused to play ball with the oil companies. They resisted the pressure to cut

prices, demanded that liftings of oil from Nigeria should be restored, and made their own sacrifices of cutting production to ensure that market conditions changed. Within a few weeks, world demand once again began to rise, Nigerian production also rose, and instead of OPEC members being forced to follow the British National Oil Company in cutting prices of crude, the BNOC itself, and the British Government, were obliged to restore the price cuts they had made as part of the anti-OPEC campaign.

The message

The message for Africa is clear: through co-operation, on both the economic and political level, it is possible to confront the attempts of the industrialised countries to turn back the tide of African development.

The objective of the industrialised nations, and of the United States in particular, especially under what Major Jalloud described as 'this most reactionary and feudal-minded American administration', is to continue treating the African continent as a source of raw materials, commodities of all kinds, ranging from petroleum and minerals to foodstuffs, while at the same time encouraging the development of a consumer market whose demand cannot be satisfied through local production.

The development of an African automobile industry, or steel industry, does not serve the interests of the industrial magnates of the advanced countries, and neither does the creation of smaller scale African industries that can satisfy less sophisticated consumer demand. Even on the simple humanitarian question of food, the United States, the world's largest grain producer, has no interest in seeing Africa develop its own production, since this would lessen the dependence of its member states on imports, and consequently upon the political will of the country or countries providing them. Even a government as

overtly subservient to the strategic interests of the United States as that of President Nimeiry in Sudan has found it impossible to attract sufficient private or governmental assistance from the USA to develop its huge potentially arable areas.

Through co-operation between the states of Africa on the economic front, however, it is possible, the Jamahiriya believes, to ensure that the attempts now emanating from the United States to eradicate the small economic gains of the past can be defeated. Just as the oil exporters, working together, were able to defeat the attempt to cripple Nigeria, so successes can be achieved in other fields. The expansion of financial aid from the continent's wealthier countries to their less fortunate colleagues can help the latter to avoid recourse to the United States, or to international institutions dominated by it, such as the World Bank, and thus to avoid the inevitable limiting of their political freedom of manoeuvre that follows. At the same time, through such co-operation, African states can gain at least some improvement in their ability to determine their own economic priorities, to suit their own interests, rather than those of the industrialised nations.

The record of African independence over the past twenty-five years has shown that while countries remain economically dependent upon the former metropolitan power, or on the United States, they lack the strength, even if their governments have the political will, to embark upon a genuinely non-aligned and independent policy. The fight for economic independence, stressed at the dawn of the Organisation of African Unity by the late Kwame Nkrumah, remains today central to the achievement of the aspirations of the continent's people. During the Tripoli summit, leaders will be reviewing, as a matter of the highest priority, ways in which economic co-operation between them can help in the achievement of this objective.

A.K.



PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in West Beirut

Palestinians resist Zionist blitzkrieg

THE LONG-awaited Zionist invasion of Lebanon came on 6th June, when thousands of troops, backed by armour and the full weight of Israel's US-supplied air force, poured across the border, brushing aside UN peacekeeping forces in the south. A week later, in the face of fierce resistance from Palestinian guerrillas and Syrian troops, the Zionist forces had advanced to the suburbs of the Lebanese capital, Beirut, and linked up with the rightist militia of Bashir Gemayel's Phalangist Party, which controls East Beirut and a swathe of territory to the north.

Casualties, mostly amongst civilians, have been horrific. By the tenth day of the invasion, savage Israeli bombing raids and artillery barrages had already killed 10,000 people and wounded 16,000. The coastal towns of Tyre, Sidon and Damour had been all but destroyed, and up to 600,000 people were made homeless, according to international relief agencies.

Israel's professed aim was to destroy Palestinian military power. But the real significance of the aggression centres not in Lebanon, but in the West Bank and

THOUSANDS OF Palestinians and Lebanese have been killed and wounded in Israel's savage blitzkrieg in Lebanon. But, as Alan George explains, the Zionists have failed to crush the PLO, and break the will to resist of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

rejected by all Palestinians as an affront to their internationally recognised right to self determination in a state of their own in Palestine.

West Bank and Gaza Palestinians have stubbornly resisted all Israel's attempts to force their acquiescence in Camp David. Like all Palestinians, they have declared the PLO to be their sole representative. And military and civilian resistance in the 1967 occupied territories has been stiffened by the common allegiance to the PLO.

The Zionist invasion of Lebanon was launched in a bid to destroy the influence of the PLO in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Beigin hoped that a humiliation of Palestinian guerrilla forces in Lebanon would break the West Bankers' will to resist, and make way for a unilateral imposition of the Camp David 'autonomy' scheme. On 8th June John Ellison of the *Daily Express* quoted a 'very senior Israeli' as saying: 'What we must do if we are to succeed is to find another Palestinian identity to replace Arafat — even if that entails smashing Arafat for ever.'

Israel hoped not only to deal the PLO

Gaza Strip, which have just entered their fifteenth year under Zionist occupation.

Israel has openly declared its intention of annexing the two regions, under cover of the Camp David 'autonomy' scheme. The US-sponsored Camp David accords call for the establishment of an 'autonomous' Palestinian council in the West Bank. But its powers would be limited to matters such as refuse collection, and consequently Camp David has been firmly

Genocide in Lebanon

MENACHEM BEGIN'S claim that the invasion of Lebanon was launched to 'destroy' the PLO has horrifying implications. The PLO is not the 'gang of terrorists' portrayed by Zionist propagandists. It cannot be separated from the four million-strong Palestinian people as a whole, who have endorsed it as their sole representative. Destroying the PLO implies genocide, and there are clear signs that Israel's actions in Lebanon fell little short of this.

The deliberate slaughter in one Lebanese village was described in the Daily Telegraph on 11th June by Mr Paul Templeman, a British engineer living in southern Lebanon. 'He said he saw Israeli jets repeatedly hit a village near Sidon where the inhabitants had put white sheets on the roofs to show they were not involved. "But the Israelis took no notice of the white flags. And to finish off the job, the Israeli jets came back for another bombing run when the people were burying those killed in the first strike".'

Fears that Israel was bent on murdering as many Arabs as possible were confirmed by the Zionists' refusal to allow international relief supplies to enter the devastated towns and villages in Lebanon. On 12th June the International Herald Tribune reported: 'The Israeli military authorities have ordered the United Nations peace-keeping force in Lebanon to stop donating and delivering food to Lebanese civilians caught in the fighting.'

The report added: 'From Sunday until Tuesday, the Israeli Army refused to allow UN relief convoys to cross the border into Lebanon, and the civilians' situation became desperate, according to UN officials.'

On 17th June The Times said: 'The Israeli Government appears to be blocking some international relief aid for the victims of the conflict in Lebanon. According to well-informed sources in Cyprus, supplies of medicine, tents, blankets and other emergency equipment are being held up in Jerusalem, Gaza, Damascus and Cyprus.'

Noting that no explanation for the delays had been given by the Zionists, The Times added: 'According to United Nations officials in Geneva, the aid had failed to reach Lebanon for political, rather than practical, reasons.'

Prominent liberal Jews have openly accused the Begin regime of practising systematic murder in its Lebanon invasion. In the Guardian on 18th June, Dr Nahum Goldmann, a former President of the World Jewish Congress, declared: 'The apparent aim is to liquidate the Palestinian people.'

The savage cold-bloodedness of the Zionists was graphically underlined by an Israeli soldier in the village of Ba'abda, south east of Beirut. On 17th June The Times quoted him as saying: 'Personally, I would like to see the Palestinians all dead, and helping to do it. They are a sickness wherever they go.'



Israeli forces destroy homes and lives

forces a devastating blow, but also to prevent them from reorganising for many years to come. At first, Israel said its aim was merely to clear Palestinian forces from a 25-mile strip north of the border. But as the Zionist invasion force moved

to Beirut, and linked up with the rightists who control East Beirut, it became clear that Begin's war aims were much more ambitious. The intention was to create an Israeli-sponsored satellite state, with Phalangist leader Gemayal as its

figurehead, that would totally surround and dominate the main Palestinian population centres in West Beirut and along the coastal strip to the south.

US collusion

There is clear evidence of direct US collusion in the Zionist state's latest assault on the Palestinians and their leftist Lebanese allies. On 11th June *The Economist* reported: 'During these months [since last year's ceasefire was agreed in southern Lebanon], the Israelis have been attempting to persuade President Reagan's administration that there could be no real sequel to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty unless the Palestinians' base in Lebanon was eliminated. They further argued that this was not feasible by non-military means. According to Israeli sources, the American administration eventually declared itself convinced.'

The magazine added: 'These Israeli-American discussions were held discreetly at the highest level of government.'

Further evidence of US complicity, at the very least in a limited Israeli assault, came in *Newsweek* and *Time* magazines on 21st June. 'Administration officials were privately horrified when Israeli troops penetrated far beyond the 25-mile zone that the Prime Minister had originally proclaimed,' said *Time*, quoting a top White House official as saying: 'We thought the Israelis would keep their word, but it turns out that what Begin told us was a lie.' *Newsweek* quoted an 'exasperated Reagan aide' as saying: 'There's no way round it. The guy lied to us.'

US collusion centred on the invasion's impact on the credibility of its client regimes in the Arab homeland, which have had increasing difficulty justifying to their citizens their alliances with Washington. The US is Israel's main backer, and has repeatedly demonstrated its disregard for Palestinian and Arab rights. The Arab nation has rightly identified the White House as being ultimately responsible for the latest Zionist onslaught, and Washington feared that anti-American feeling might undermine its satellites in the region.

But if there was initial concern in Washington at the extent of the Zionist aggression, it soon evaporated as the White House took on board the opportunities presented by the invasion. After a week of calls from the US urging a prompt Israeli withdrawal, the White House changed its tune. On 16th June, ten days after the start of the Zionist onslaught, the *Financial Times* revealed: 'The US no longer favours Israel's immediate withdrawal from Lebanon, State Department officials said in Washington, indicating the US Government's growing support for Israeli objectives.'

The paper went on to quote Larry Speakes, a White House spokesman, as saying that the US hoped that, once the PLO was disarmed, Palestinians would 'cease to be devoted to the destruction of

Israel'. He added: 'The US could then put maximum pressure on the Israeli Government for a rapid move towards autonomy for the Palestinians on the demilitarised West Bank and Gaza Strip.' Larry Speakes concluded by asserting that if the Palestinians were not prepared to accept peaceful co-existence with Israel, 'room would have to be found for them in other parts of the Arab world'.

Miscalculation

If the Zionists counted on an easy victory, they badly miscalculated. The Palestinians and their leftist Lebanese allies have never deluded themselves into believing that they could successfully confront the Zionist war machine using conventional tactics. The very essence of guerrilla warfare is to avoid static fire-fights with superior forces.

It was no surprise that the Israeli advance was rapid, but Zionist claims to have 'occupied' the whole of southern Lebanon are manifestly untrue. The Israeli tank columns simply passed along the roads, by-passing the bulk of the guerrilla forces, who saved their energies for the hit-and-run tactics, and street warfare, at which they excel.

Close analysis of Israeli claims bears this out. On 8th June the Zionists claimed to have defeated Palestinian resistance in the southern port city of Tyre. But on 11th June Robert Fisk, reporting for *The Times* from Beirut, said: 'The PLO have fought over the past few days far harder than was originally imagined. Despite Israeli claims to have captured Tyre, it now transpires that Palestinian guerrilla fighters are still in action there.'

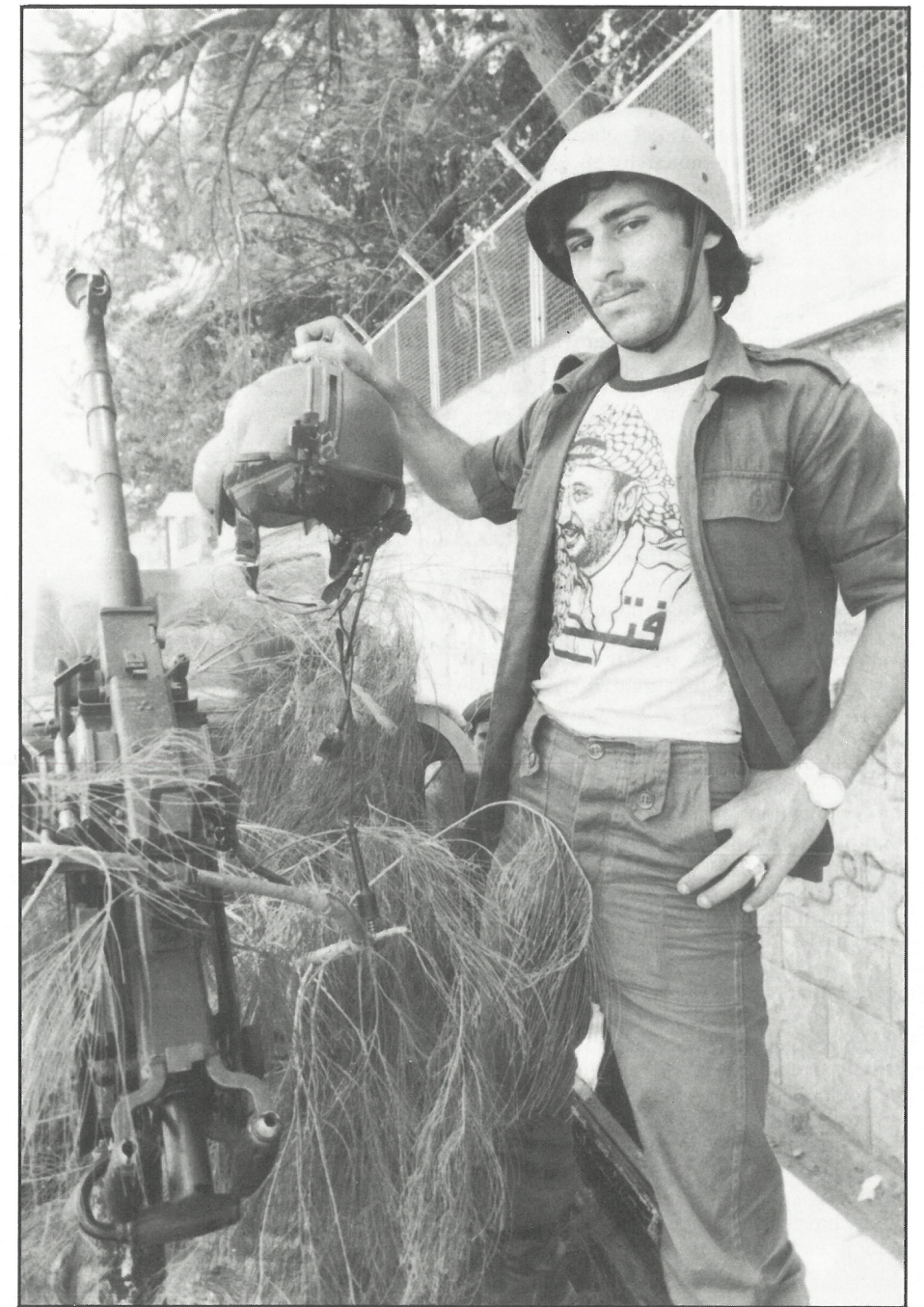
The same pattern has emerged with other Zionist 'victories'. On 10th June the *International Herald Tribune* carried a despatch from Tel Aviv stating: 'Israeli infantry and naval forces on the Mediterranean coast captured Sidon, the Palestinians' chief supply port 31 miles north of the Israeli border, after a 24-hour attack that left much of the city of 250,000 in flames.'

The same day, Eric Silver, *The Guardian's* Jerusalem correspondent, said: 'Israel announced that Damour, nine miles south of Beirut, was in its hands.'

But on 11th June, Robert Fisk said in *The Times*: 'The Palestinians are also still fighting in Sidon and from bunkers in their township of Damour, just south of Beirut.'

Reports of continued resistance in the south persisted. On 17th June, Christopher Walker, describing a visit to Sidon, said in *The Times*: 'An Israeli officer refused to take us to the school because he said the area had not yet been made safe from guerrillas although it was only a short drive from the city centre.'

The Palestinians are now engaged in a series of hit-and-run operations against the invaders that is taking a heavy toll on the Israelis. On 14th June Hugh Davies, reporting for the *Daily Telegraph* from behind Israeli lines, described the after-



A downed Israeli pilot's helmet held by PLO fighter

math of an ambush laid by Palestinian fighters for an Israeli tank and infantry unit. The spot, near the village of Enharsha, was only 13 miles north of the Israeli border. 'The road had been mined and rocket propelled grenades used by the heavily outnumbered attackers,' said Davies. He added that Zionist troops 'have a sneaking regard for the competence and even boldness shown by their enemy'.

Even the Zionists' officially admitted, and doubtless understated, casualty figures show an unmistakable pattern. By 14th June they had admitted to 170 dead and 700 wounded. The rising trend of Israeli casualties had already become clear by 11th June, when the *Guardian* reported: 'Latest Israeli casualty figures showed a big increase, with 13 more deaths reported, bringing the official death

toll to 45 since Sunday.' Significantly, the report added: 'The army said 164 people were wounded in the 24 hours up to midnight last night, nearly four times more than the previous day.'

The determined resistance put up by the guerrilla fighters, and Israel's obvious reluctance to enter West Beirut for fear of the high casualties they would suffer in fierce street fighting, had far-reaching political repercussions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Begin's hopes have been dashed. PLO forces in Lebanon have been dealt heavy blows, but they have been neither 'destroyed' nor humiliated. On 17th June the *Financial Times* reported: 'The mood on the West Bank has been hardened against Israel by the war in Lebanon. The Palestinians there, far from being cowed, are sounding more defiant than ever.'

Nasser's legacy to the Arabs

WHEN GENERAL Abdel Nasser overthrew the Egyptian monarchy on 23rd July 1952, the Arab region entered a new era. For centuries, the Arabs had endured domination by a succession of foreign overlords — the Ottoman Turks, the French, British and Italians. Such independence as had been achieved was largely nominal. The western powers relinquished their colonies with reluctance, and ensured that power was handed over to compliant regimes that would take full account of western interests. Nasser's Revolution broke the mould of neo-colonialism in the Arab region. His was the first fully independent Arab government.

The Egyptian Free Officers, headed by Nasser, did not come to power with a coherent political programme. But they did subscribe to a number of key ideals that consistently inspired their policies. The Six Principles that guided the Revolution were set out shortly after the overthrow of King Farouk. They were: the termination of the British presence and the elimination of the agents of imperialism; the eradication of feudalism; the liquidation of monopolies and of capitalist control over the government; the creation of a strong national army; and the establishment of a sound democracy.

In the twenty years between the Revolution and Nasser's death in 1970, his government successively tackled each of these tasks. Each step depended on the attainment of its predecessor. With the British armed forces still in the country, for example, the comprehensive land reform and nationalisation measures might have been jeopardised. The landed aristocracy and rich commercial factions might have called on the British to protect their interests, preventing the fundamental redistribution of national wealth at which Nasser aimed.

Two phases

The Egyptian Revolution can be divided into two phases, the second starting in 1962 with the adoption of the National Charter drawn up by Nasser. The ten-chapter document is the theoretical framework of what has come to be known as Arab Socialism. But as well as setting out the lessons learned during the first ten years of the Revolution, it stressed the need for the establishment of democracy. The National Charter heralded the effort to tackle the last of Nasser's Six Principles.

As Nejla Abu Izzedin says, 'Hitherto, revolutionary action proceeded through initiative and guidance from the top. It had been a revolution for the people and not by them. The government enjoyed wide popular assent, but without popular participation.'

After the adoption of the National Charter, efforts were made to establish



EGYPT'S GAMAL Abdel Nasser dominated Arab politics from 1952 until his death in 1970, and his thinking continues to command wide support. Dr Alan George reviews a new appraisal of Nasser's achievements.

democratic institutions that would allow the people to participate in policy formation. Western-style parliamentary democracies had long been seen as unworkable in the Egyptian context. Political parties were considered divisive in a society that needed cohesion. Instead, the Egyptian revolutionary authorities set up the Arab Socialist Union, a country-wide body comprising peasants, workers, soldiers, intellectuals and capitalists, with branches

going down to the local level. Its purpose was to allow the Egyptian leadership to keep in close touch with the aspirations of the people.

Yet the ASU proved a failure. To function effectively, the ASU needed 'leaders willing to share in a real sense the life of the people they are expected to guide, live their problems, and consecrate themselves with devotion, even asceticism to their mission,' says Najla Abu Izzedin. 'In the absence of these qualities among ASU leaders, the units of the organisation turned out to be a duplication of government offices transmitting communications from one level to the next, and the whole organisation became a replica of government bureaucracy.' She adds: 'The prevalence of official employees was among the defects of the ASU, to which they brought the bureaucratic mentality, conducting themselves as government functionaries.'

Democracy

To date, only the Libyan Revolution has successfully confronted the challenge of combining socialism with democracy. The parallels between the Libyan and Egyptian Revolutions are close, and intentional. In Libya, like Egypt, there was an initial phase, from 1969 to 1977, when the country was ruled from above by Muammer Qadhafi and his fellow Free Unionist Officers. Libya had set up an Arab Socialist Union modelled on Nasser's, but it soon became clear that it suffered from the same defects.

Starting with the Cultural Revolution in early 1973, however, Qadhafi moved progressively towards an entirely new system of direct democracy. The process culminated in March 1977 with the proclamation of the Jamahiriya and the abolition of all traditional structures of government, at all levels. Ever since, Libyans have determined policies directly, through a network of local congresses open to all citizens. The flaws of the ASU have been overcome.

Nejla Abu Izzedin's book has great strengths and major weaknesses. It covers an impressive area of ground, and is a valuable reference work on Egypt under Nasser. Yet it suffers from a woefully inadequate index. The title is misleading. The reader expects a racy biography of Nasser, the man. Instead, he is confronted by a detailed, and at times turgidly written, blow-by-blow description of Egypt's economic, social and political development under Nasser. It is a useful book, but will prove of interest mainly to specialists.

□ *Nasser of the Arabs: an Arab Assessment* by Nejla M Abu Izzedin, Third World Centre for Research and Publishing, London 1981. 467 pages.

Helping to build 'the best hotel in the Mediterranean'

THERE ARE many British Commonwealth ex-servicemen who will recall the old Grand Hotel in Tripoli with fond gratitude. Indeed, this probably applies equally to German and Italian ex-servicemen, because it successively became the headquarters of each in this much fought-over land during the Second World War.

Built originally by — I think — the Italians, I first saw it set amongst the palm trees looking over the esplanade to the bay of the harbour beyond. It was the best site in Tripoli. So it was with nostalgic delight that I, on behalf of the WT Partnership Ltd, was asked in late 1977 to submit a scheme for the development of a new hotel.

A number of previous schemes had been prepared, based upon adaptation, renovation or extension of the existing hotel — which we all wanted to retain. But none of these were commercially or practically viable. It was, therefore, decided that the hotel, together with an adjacent apartment block, should be demolished and replaced by a new hotel, of high standard, which would sympathise with what had gone before, and would relate to structures and the atmosphere of surrounding buildings.

The development of the design took two years, and in this we were helped enormously by the staff of the Social Security Secretariat who had been appointed to advise and guide us to achieve the results we all had in mind. Many of the best features of the hotel as it stands today are due entirely to their untiring work, and immense interest in every and any aspect and detail of the design. Whilst it is an entirely modern building, every effort has been made to reflect the ambience of what went before. There

THE GRAND Hotel, the most modern in the Jamahiriya, has just opened in Tripoli. It has been hailed as the most luxurious on the entire Mediterranean coast, and a London firm, the WT Partnership Ltd, played a key role as consultants for the project, as the company's director Gerry Rudman explains.

are many architectural details in the new building that are identical with the old, and are sympathetic to the heritage of the Jamahiriya.

The bare statistics of the hotel, as it stands today, are as follows: 357 bedrooms, ranging from standard twin and double rooms to suites, with a VIP suite. The restaurant seats 116, and the Grill Room 138. The Function Room provides seating for 396, and there are smaller conference rooms and facilities. The lofty and extensive public rooms are located on the lower floors, incorporating lounges, a special Tea Lounge and a Café. The lounges look out to the harbour over a swimming pool and terrace at the mezzanine level, which incorporate a health club and sauna. At ground level there are shops serving both the hotel and the general public. There are two main kitchens, and all the usual facilities asso-

ciated with a de luxe hotel. A notable feature is the provision of facilities for disabled persons.

Skanska Cementgjuteriet of Sweden were appointed as contractors for the new hotel, with Brown Boveri & Cie and Turbon Klimatechnik Tunzin GmbH, both of West Germany, as the main sub-contractors, respectively for the electrical and mechanical services. The total cost of the project was in the order of \$70 million.

Team spirit

From the start, a tremendous team spirit developed. We were all determined that this should be the best building and the best hotel in the Jamahiriya and, indeed, on the whole of the north African coast. Construction started in September 1979, and was completed in June 1982. Design and construction have been to the highest standard, and this is clearly evident in the finished building.

A key element in the project's success was the enthusiasm of the staff of the Social Security Secretariat. They made major contributions to the conceptual thinking and design, and to the development of the interior decor and the furnishings and fittings, which form such an important part of any hotel development. Their unflagging zeal contributed very substantially to the quality of the finished product.

It may seem that we are blowing our own trumpet. This is very far from the truth. We are blowing the trumpet of a team who can be jointly proud of achieving what they set out to do — create the best building and the best hotel on the coast of the Mediterranean. Come and see it and stay there. You'll find it's all true.

Rehabilitation centres for disabled

THE GRAND Hotel scheme was the first in which the WT Partnership became involved in the Jamahiriya, but in November 1980 the firm was appointed as consultants for two important rehabilitation centres for the disabled, one in Tripoli, the other in Benghazi, writes Alan George. The two centres, of identical design, each cost \$48.8 million to build and equip, and both will open shortly. The main contractor is Sweden's Skanska Cementgjuteriet, and the client is the Jamahiriya's Social Security Secretariat.

The two centres have a wide range of facilities, unrivalled in most

western industrialised countries. Each has a 100-bed hospital with an operating theatre and X-ray equipment, and each centre can cater for more than 200 out-patients daily.

The centres are fully equipped for socio-therapy, hydro-therapy and physiotherapy. Occupational training facilities include workshops and chicken farms. Sports facilities include gymnasias, swimming pools and playing fields.

The centres have been built complete with staff accommodation. Each has 78 staff residences, ranging from halls of residence, with communal facilities

such a dining rooms, to detached three-bedroom houses.

The ultra-modern rehabilitation centres underline the Jamahiriya's determination to assist its handicapped citizens to play a full role in society.

Libya has a disproportionately large number of disabled residents — the result of accidental detonations of unexploded mines and bombs left from the fierce World War II battles fought across Libyan territory by the European armies. It was the Jamahiriya that in 1977 proposed the designation of 1981 as UN International Year of the Disabled.

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Britain supplies construction materials

JOSEPH CONRAD & Sons of Warrington has won a \$218,400 order from the Yugoslav firm Ivan Multinovic for 1,500 drums of a concrete curing substance called Cormix, which will be used on the Benghazi port expansion programme for which the Belgrade company is main contractor. Half the drums had already been delivered by early June. The resin-based mixture is sprayed onto concrete to prevent water evaporation, allowing concrete to set strongly.

The Benghazi port expansion programme is making good progress, and is due for completion next year. It entails the construction of three new breakwaters, and extensive dredging and infilling. Ivan Multinovic won its \$24 million contract for the redevelopment scheme last year.

The contract to supply Cormix is only one of a series of important orders placed with British firms relating to construction in the Jamahiriya. In April the Birmingham firm Kwikform won a \$838,380 contract to supply scaffolding for a housing project.

Other companies in Europe are also participating in Libya's construction boom. In April it was disclosed that Norway's G Block Watne has a \$1.6 million order to supply site accommodation for construction workers in the Libyan coastal towns of Misrata and Tobruk.

Tripoli Planetarium opens

THE OPENING on 2nd May of the Al Fateh Cultural Complex in the Libyan capital Tripoli marked a major milestone in the Jamahiriya's efforts to provide its citizens with a full range of leisure and cultural facilities. At the centre of the complex is a \$10 million, 240-seat planetarium, built by the East German concern Carl Zeiss Jena, in association with Swedish contractors. Other facilities on the 3,000 square metre site include a 145-seat auditorium equipped for screening films, video tapes and slide shows on the achievements of the Libyan Revolution, a 105-seat theatre, recording studios, a photographic laboratory and a well-stocked reference library on astronomy.

The new planetarium is the Jamahiriya's second. A similarly equipped facility was recently opened at Benghazi's Gar Younis University.

A key aim of the Libyan development programme is to increase the technical skills of the Jamahiriya's citizens, thereby reducing the continuing reliance on experts from overseas, and a sign of the progress that has been achieved is the fact that the new Tripoli Cultural Complex is entirely staffed by Libyan Arab technicians and specialists.

Cement output soars

THE JAMAHIRIYA'S far-reaching socio-economic development programmes have created an enormous demand for a wide range of construction materials. To increase its industrial self-sufficiency, Libya has already established a number of building materials plants, including two major cement factories in the coastal town of Homs, and one each in Benghazi and Souk al Khamis, near Tripoli. More are under construction.

In April the Jamahiriya news agency JANA disclosed that first quarter production of building materials in Benghazi, Homs and Souk al Khamis had far exceeded expectations. Total output reached 761,740 tonnes of cement, 46,614 tonnes of asphalt, and 10,360 cubic metres of reinforced concrete. Citing sources in the Libyan Heavy Industry Secretariat, JANA said that output had exceeded planned targets by between 119 and 133 per cent.

Village contract for Sweden

THE SWEDISH construction company Armerad Betong Vagforbättringar (ABV) is reportedly close to signing a major contract to build a complete new village, probably in the Sarir area, in the desert between Benghazi and the south eastern oasis town of Kufra. Sarir is the site of an important agricultural project, based on irrigation from subterranean water.

The Swedish firm has been active in the Jamahiriya for some years, winning its first contract in 1980. The work entailed the construction of a new village at Kufra, where another major irrigation project has been under way since the early 1970s. The contract, awarded by the Jamahiriya's Housing Secretariat, was worth \$143.5 million. The village, due for completion next year, will have 600 homes, schools, and a range of utilities. It will house about 2,000 people.

ABV's Vice-president, Lars-Olaf Plyr, has confirmed that negotiations for the new village are well advanced, but will say

only that it will be located 'somewhere between Kufra and Benghazi'. The new village is likely to be at least as large as that at Kufra, both in size and in cost.

New hospital for Ghadames

THE NEW central hospital in the south western town of Ghadames will be opening soon, the Jamahiriya news agency JANA disclosed on 28th May. The 134-bed hospital, fully equipped with the most modern equipment, has operating theatres, and units for maternity, gynaecology, contagious diseases, intensive care, casualty, diagnosis, cardiology, brain scanning, chronic illnesses, and physiotherapy. The hospital complex includes a doctors and nurses residence, and a mosque.

The \$62.5 billion 1981-85 development plan calls for the construction of 29 new hospitals throughout the Jamahiriya, with an increase in the number of hospital beds in the country from 14,472 in 1980 to 23,765 in 1985. The ratio of beds per thousand population is set to increase from 4.5 in 1980 to 6.0 by the middle of the decade. Total allocations for health service developments amount to LD650 million.

\$300 million loan for Peru

THE JOINT Arab-Latin American Bank (Arlabank), in which the Libyan Jamahiriya has a large stake, has completed negotiations on a \$300 million loan to the Peruvian Government. The loan, which is expected to be signed shortly, will be for three and a half years, and will carry an interest rate of 5/8 of one per cent above the London interbank offered rate (libor). News of the loan emerged in May, during the twelfth annual meeting in the Puerto Rican capital San Juan of the Latin American Association of Development Financial Institutions.

Arlabank was set up in 1977 with a capital of \$100 million. Forty per cent of the capital came from banks and other financial institutions in six Latin American countries — Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela and Chile. Twenty per cent was contributed by Arab and European banks, and the remaining forty per cent was shared between the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank (LAFB), Kuwaiti foreign investment companies, and other Arab financial institutions. Of this, 28 per cent was put up by LAFB and the Kuwait Foreign Trading,

Contracting and Investment Company. The new bank started operations from its headquarters in the Peruvian capital Lima on 2nd October 1978.

All the Jamahiriya's banking investments overseas are channelled through LAFB. Libya's direct, non-banking investments abroad, for example in property and industrial ventures, are managed by the Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Company, set up in September 1981 with a capital of \$1.7 billion.

ABC in Mexican loan

THE ARAB Banking Corporation (ABC) and Gulf International Bank have each underwritten \$100 million of a \$2.7 billion loan to Mexico. The loan is in two parts, one extending over three years, the other over seven years.

It was also disclosed in early June that ABC has joined with a number of other Arab banks in raising a two-and-a-half year \$8.1 million loan for the Venezuelan tourist development concern Promotora Turistica. The other banks involved are the Libyan Tunisian Bank, Union des Banques Arabes & Françaises (UBAF), Banque Arabe & International d'Investissement (BAII) and Banque Arabe Espanol.

The Arab Banking Corporation is jointly owned by the Libyan Jamahiriya and Kuwait. Set up as an offshore bank in Bahrain in January 1980, the corporation has an authorised capital of \$1 billion.

Irish beef exports to rise

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya is to increase its imports of Irish beef to 6,000 tonnes this year, Irish Agriculture Minister Brian Lenihan has disclosed. He also revealed that a Libyan delegation will be visiting Eire in September to investigate the market for the Jamahiriya's petrochemicals products.

Mr Lenihan was speaking on 1st June, on his return from a successful visit to Libya, which ended with the signature of an economic, social and cultural agreement between the two countries, aimed at strengthening bilateral co-operation in a wide range of fields. On the Libyan side, the agreement was initiated by the Jamahiriya's Education Secretary, Abdel Hafiz az Zulaytini.

Irish exports to Libya, mainly of cattle and agricultural products, have risen steadily in recent years. In 1969 Libya was



Libya's agrarian reforms on schedule

Agricultural plans on target

STATISTICS JUST released by the General People's Committee for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation show that the 1981-85 development plan is well on schedule, with progress comparing favourably with that achieved during the 1976-80 plan. LD3.1 billion are earmarked for agricultural development in the 1981-85 plan, accounting for 18.2 per cent of overall plan expenditures. Only the industrial sector, with total outlays of LD3.9 billion, has a higher priority.

The current plan calls for the reclamation of a total of 1,740,273 hectares of land, of which 66,331 hectares will be irrigated, 355,233 hectares for rain-fed cultivation, and 1,318,709 hectares of land was reclaimed, bringing the total

the destination for a mere 0.04 per cent of all Irish exports. By 1979 Dublin was sending goods worth \$82.4 million to the Jamahiriya, accounting for 1.2 per cent of global Irish exports. In 1980, exports to Libya fell slightly, to \$81.3 million, but rose sharply last year, reaching nearly \$132 million.

\$10 million Irish water contract

THE IRISH state firm An Foras Forbartha has won a \$10 million, five-year contract to help manage the Jamahiriya's precious water resources. The work will entail analysing and testing underground water in the southern desert regions, and also surface water in the coastal zone in the north. The date will be fed into

reclaimed since the start of the plan in January 1981 to 1.2 million hectares, the Jamahiriya news agency JANA announced on 1st June.

Of the target of 66,331 hectares of irrigated land, 12,000 hectares have already entered cultivation. Work involved the drilling of 54 new wells, and the construction of associated irrigation canal networks. 165 farmhouses have been distributed to farmers, JANA added. During the 1976-80 plan, a total of 9,281 farmhouses were distributed.

The total area currently under cultivation in the Jamahiriya has risen to 228,742 hectares, the figures show.

The 1981-85 plan calls for a continuation of Libya's ambitious afforestation programme, aimed at increasing date and fruit output, extending the area of forests to help conserve water and soil, by reducing surface run-off of

computers in Tripoli and Benghazi, to help plan the most efficient use of water for industry and agriculture.

The contract, signed in early June, followed eighteen months of negotiations, which involved a demonstration survey over several weeks last year by a three-man team from the company.

Tripoli gas plant

THE ITALIAN firm Techint Tecnica Internazionale, and France's L'Air Liquide have won a \$26 million contract to build a plant for industrial and medical gases near Tripoli. It will produce oxygen, nitrogen, argon, nitrous oxide and acetylene, and will have a 2,000 kV power plant and a closed-circuit water cooling system.

rains, and at extending the wind-breaks that protect crops in fields. The number of palm trees will increase from 4.6 billion in 1980 to 5.2 billion in 1985, and fruit trees will increase from 3.1 billion in 1980 to 4.1 billion. Forest trees are to be planted over 165,405 hectares, and wind-breaks over 63,443 hectares.

The new statistics show that in the first quarter of 1982, 1.5 million date palms and fruit trees were planted, bringing the total planted since the start of the 1981-85 plan to 16.9 million. Two million forest trees and two million trees in windbreaks were planted in the January-March period this year. Since the beginning of last year, a total of 62 million forest trees have been planted, and 48 million in windbreaks.

The development of the Jamahiriya's livestock resources is also on schedule. During the first

quarter of the year, 1,356 head of sheep and 157 cattle were distributed to farmers, and the General Directorate for Cattle Breeding reports that the number of breeding centres in the country has reached 39, with a further eleven under construction. The 1981-85 plan calls for 64 new cattle breeding stations, bringing the Libyan total from 28 in 1980 to 92, with a total capacity of 46,000 head, in 1985.

The establishment of intensive agribusiness schemes specialising in dairy and poultry production is a key feature of Libya's agricultural development programme, and this calls for a range of associated marketing and storage facilities. In late April it was announced that the Hungarian firm Komplex has won a \$6.7 million contract to build a cold store in Tripoli, to hold 1,000 tonnes of poultry and meat, and 20 million eggs.

with an annual output of 600 buses, assembled from Hungarian components. During the first five years of the plant's operation, Mogurt is expected to supply bus body components worth about \$70 million per annum.

The Jamahiriya already has one bus and truck plant, located at Tajoura, near Tripoli, where Fiat vehicles are assembled. Tajoura is also the site of a tractor assembly plant, opened last year, and of a truck body and trailer assembly plant, nearing completion by the Italian Calabrese concern.

The Libyan Truck & Bus Company was set up in 1976 with a capital of LD 12 million — 75 per cent put up by the Jamahiriya, and the rest by Fiat, in which Libya in turn has a thirteen per cent stake.

Contract for second bus plant

THE LIBYAN Bus & Truck Company has signed a contract with two Hungarian firms, Mogurt Gepjarmu Kulkereskedelmi and Ikarus Karosszeria & Jarmugyar to build and run a bus assembly plant, to cost \$2.5 million and

THE GREEN BOOK



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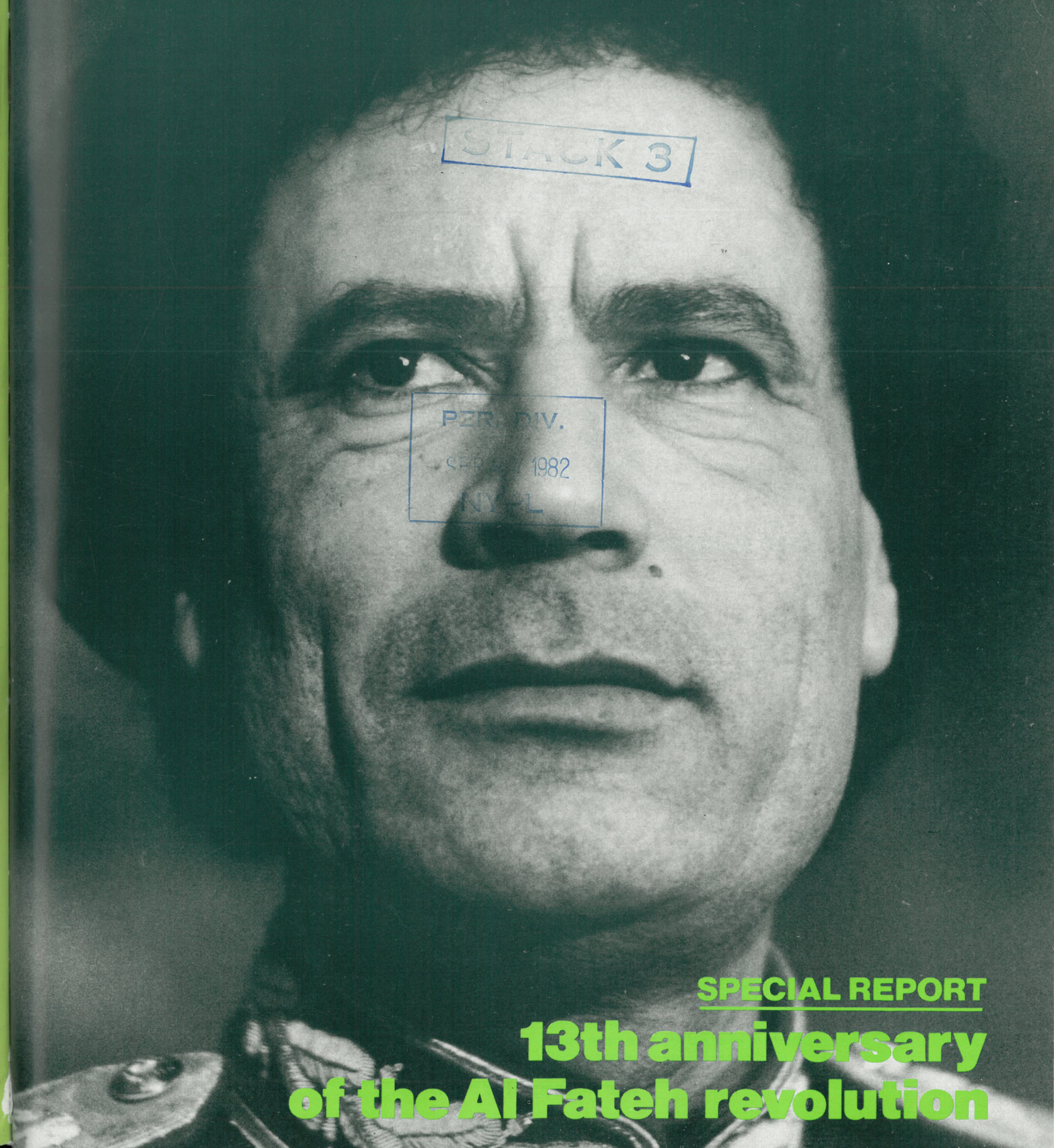
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Copies of The Green Book can be obtained from The Information Department, The Libyan People's Bureau of the Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 5 St James's Square, London SW1.

jamahiriya review

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Libyan aid
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SPECIAL REPORT
13th anniversary
of the Al Fateh revolution